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FORTY-THIRD YEAR.

VOLUME LXXXIX.
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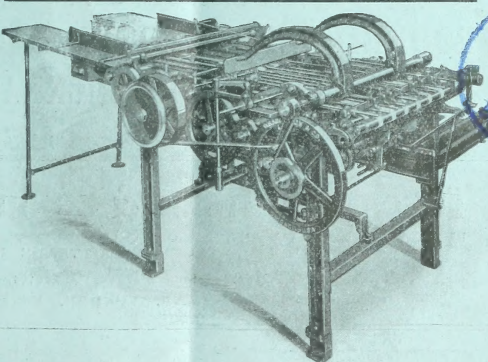
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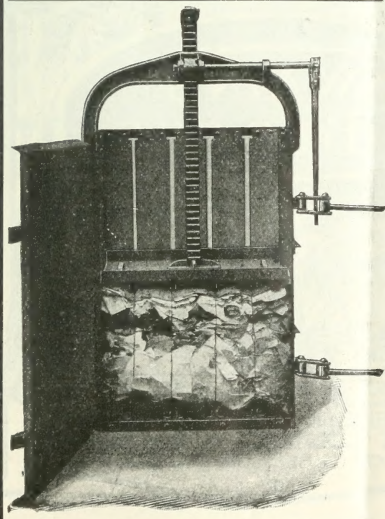
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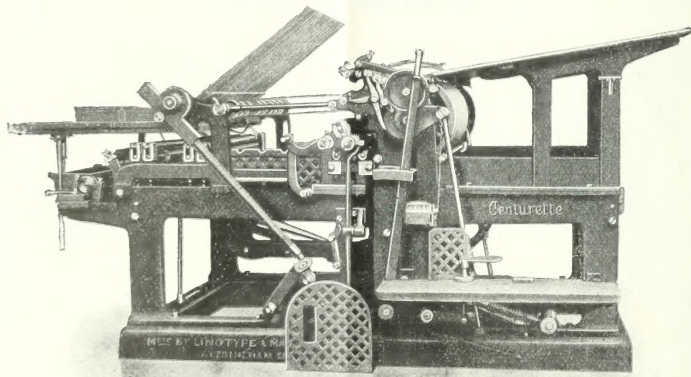
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EVERY THURSDAY.
PRICE TWOPENCE.

Printing in America.

Mr. George Eaton Hart Continues Impressions of his
Recent Tour of Investigation in the United States.

After dealing with the subject of composing-room efficiency and indicating points of American superiority (as reported in last week's issue), Mr. Hart turned to technical education.

In regard to the training of apprentices, he said, the boys are usually bound for five years on conditions and wages agreed upon by the unions, and are scaled on a percentage basis of the men's rates. They are registered on the books of the unions, and are at all times under the direction of the foreman, and supervision of the chairman of the union, in regard to discipline and the course of instruction given. They are compelled to attend the school one half-day per week, in the master's time, and to attend night school at least one night per week. At the end of the first year boys are tested, and if proved unsuitable by examination within the year, the trade union refuses to give them an apprentice's card, and Mr. Hart found that during the previous year, 66 per cent. of the students had been declined by the union as unsuitable for the trade. The most important feature of this combined control is that the right boy is obtained, discipline is maintained, a practical technical education is given, and, more important still, the apprentice is not entitled to the membership of the trade union until he has passed the final examination of the technical school.

Except for these latter conditions he did not consider we in England and London have anything to be ashamed of in regard to our technical school training. He visited two schools on the recommendation of the New York Typothetæ secretary: the Co-operative

School at 42nd-street, New York, and the celebrated school of Messrs. Donnelly at Lakeside Press, Chicago. In the former, the Employers' Associations, the trade unions, and the Guild, called the Hudson Guild, contribute \$10,000 each annually, whilst the Lakeside School, Chicago, is used entirely for the employees of Messrs. Donnelly, and is of a most extensive and practical character, under the control of that enthusiastic educationist, Mr. E. Sheldon. The various States, too, have differing methods of Secondary Education, with a course of instruction embracing the elements of any particular trade, but the somewhat meagre information obtained rather gave the impression that, although considerable activity was being displayed, so far, bearing in mind the large area of the country, the actual centres for practical training are few and far between, and quite in the initial stage of development. The teaching in New York was thoroughly practical, with a department in charge of a lady, for giving advanced general education.

There are, however, several important technical colleges—one of the finest being the Carnegie Institute at Pittsburg, which is most complete in its equipment and organisation, offering every grade of instruction, including scholarships for a four years' systematic training, such as would delight the heart of Mr. Howard Hazell, although Mr. Hart gathered that scholarships were not eagerly sought after by the rank and file, owing to the high wages paid to apprentices. One of the largest colleges is in Indianapolis, and is equipped on a very extensive scale with Linotypes, Inter-types and Mono. machines. Large numbers

of operators graduate through this school, who, on leaving, pass a test of 8,000 ens per hour.

Prodigious Machine Departments.

Coming to the machine department, said Mr. Hart, one is amazed at the prodigious equipments of the great houses of America, the enormous open floor space (with windows all around) measuring 200 by 300 feet and 20 to 25 or more floors, and the floors connected by large passenger and goods lifts of surprising capacity. The machines form a square around the floor, the delivery end of the machine facing the windows, with benches all around the windows, whereon sheets are examined, and overlay work is done; the centre of the room being left vacant for the storage of reels of flat paper and finished product from the presses. In several of the large houses visited, the machine rooms would extend over three to four floors, grouped according to size and style of work produced. It was not unusual to find such machines on the twelfth or even top floor. In houses like the *Pictorial Press*, *Pictorial Review*, *Butterick's*, *Curtis of Philadelphia*, *Roebucks of Chicago*, and many others, one was struck with the number of rotary machines specially built for particular work. For rotaries you have art machines running 5,000 to 7,000; two-colour machines at 6,500; four-colour rotaries, delivering either flat or folded, with slip sheet inserted, and in other cases printed covers automatically fed, and the whole product folded and wire stitched at 2,500, although actually the latter machines run much faster; but the output is reduced by the frequent stoppages to wash up, and the putting on and taking off of the rollers. For two or four-colour work the sheet is often delivered in the flat in order to distribute the colour work through the text pages. The quality of this colour work is wonderfully good, but obviously, it cannot equal the slower output of the two colour Miehle. In fact, only the special conditions of huge numbers could justify the use of the rotary principle. The most striking use of the rotary, however, was in the production of the huge store catalogues and telephone registers, consisting of 1,000 to 1,500 pages. In houses like Donnelly's and Hall's of Chicago, thirty to fifty rotaries are employed on this work, printing 192 quarto pages, and delivering in six 32pp. at 6,000 to 8,000 of each section per hour, the run amounting to millions, working day and night, and Sundays during the busy season.

The principal rotary machines used for the highest class of colour work are the Cotterell, Hoe and Goss, as well also for the highest production on half-tone work. For sheet-fed rotaries the best was the double-sheet fed rotary of the United Printing Machine Co. Perfecting machines are little used, but the American Miehle, single and two-colour, are in universal use, although the Premier machine, manufactured by the Potter Company, is becoming popular. For small machines the Kelly Press is a great favourite. The machines generally are of the latest type, and

old patterns, such as are found in most English offices, do not exist.

Make-Ready Methods.

Make-ready is done in the usual way by the overseer marking the sheet, both cut overlay and chalk process for half-tones being used. In making register for black, and particularly for colour, the lining-up machine is in common use. The Galvani process of electros is used, and blocks and plates are carefully prepared by what is commonly known here as "bumping" in the foundry, but which in the States is claimed as a patent under their Patent Laws, and called the "McKie Process." The bumping process, as is well known, is considerably practised in London and England, but is employed in a very clever manner in the States, where Mr. Hart found that in the making ready on a four-colour rotary a saving of time of 25 per cent. was effected. In the large rotary shops the plates are made ready on a miniature cylinder, identical with the press, which takes three plates, where both under and overlays are put up, thus materially expediting the starting up of the machine. By far the largest number of rotary machines use the continuous set-off, the "slip tympan" and the Nelson system is but little favoured. On flat machines the output generally exceeds ours, and may be taken at an average of 1,200 auto fed, and 1,100 hand fed, for large-sized sheets, with comparatively short runs of 10, 20, or 50,000. Almost invariably, however, flat machines are fitted with automatic feeding apparatus—the pile feeder for very long runs, and the Gross principle for smaller runs. As is well known, the machine assistant, besides his ordinary duties as feeder, assists the minder in the actual make-ready on all machines, thus materially expediting the starting, and thereby effecting economy.

Remarkable Warehouse Organisation.

It is, however, in the warehouse department that one finds the perfection of organisation, with the use of every conceivable labour-saving appliance; the absence of any but actual machine operatives is remarkable, so much is hand labour displaced by machinery. The area of the floors is amazing. The work passes through in a sequence of concurrent motion, the transference from one process to another being, where possible, by hand carriers, or the large three-sided trolley, with the product so stacked in it that it is ready for the following process. Thus, flat sheets come into the room on trolleys, which deliver to folding machines, and then to the gathering and wiring or complete binder, and from here to the trimming, and hence to the despatch on band carriers. All shavings from the cutting machines, the binding, and indeed all waste, are sucked away from the machines, and conveyed to a chamber at the bottom of the building, where the dust is extracted, and the waste paper fed into the baling machine and delivered to the vans outside.

Time did not permit Mr. Hart to mention

more than general particulars, although he remarked that quite an interesting evening might be spent in describing the well-known great American house of the Curtis Company of Philadelphia, in connection with which the mode of receiving and handling of paper alone, this firm must save a fortune compared to many of the large firms in England. At Curtis's all the paper is received in reels only, and cut up for flat when necessary, in a special department, to the exact sizes required. The paper is received by motor, and rolled on to a platform of uniform height to the motor, and is then rolled to the powerful lift into a receptacle in the shape of a cradle, making it easy to roll into, and also to roll out by a sloping platform to the floor. Here the end of the reel, carrying particulars of number and weight, is cut off and filed, the wrapper slit down and the paper rolled out of its cover down to the floor level, where it is stacked by means of the Electric Revolver Hoist.

Costing in America.

Although he had left costing to the last, Mr. Hart said he should have dealt with this at the outset, for the American Costing System is not only the inspiration and barometer of organisation and equipment, but it is the sheet anchor of the whole business, be it great or small. Any printer, he declared, who neglects this important department is not only unfaithful to his customer, and a fool to himself, but oftentimes proves himself dishonest to his creditors. Nothing convinced him more of this than the fact, that in America the printer who uses the Federation Costing System, can obtain from his banker much better terms of credit than those unassociated. So highly do the keen business printers of America esteem the Costing System, that they refuse membership of the Typothetæ to those who will not adopt it.

Just as their businesses are planned on the most scientific and progressive methods mechanically, in the same way their costing methods are most thorough and practical. Our English price lists are puny compared to those issued by the Typothetæ, whose lists embrace almost every conceivable description of printing, making provision for every detail of possible variation of an estimate or charge, and giving printed samples of the actual job itself. This is contained in a handsome loose-leaf handbook in leather, consisting of 200 or more pages with cut-in indices.

Every month the leading printers in Boston send in an elaborate form, filled up showing the business done, and the cost in each department, and these are compared and discussed by the executives, and the hour rates are corrected according to the ascertained costs. The result is that there is a market rate of cost which is given as a guide to each member of the Typothetæ. To show the confidence which consumers of printing have in the system in America, one very large printing house visited had contracts for printing a large number of periodicals, when the costs, as shown by the system, plus an agreed profit, were accepted as a settlement of the charges.

Further emphasising the importance of an adequate costing system for every printer, Mr. Hart claimed that the printer with the costing system is better able, and consequently more likely, to treat his customer fairly and honourably, than the man whose haphazard methods only enable him to guess at the cost. His American trip amply confirmed Mr. Hart's point of view.

General Conclusions.

After referring briefly to the immense establishment of the Government Printing Works at Washington, Mr. Hart tried in a few sentences to draw some conclusions as to the strong points of American printers. In the first place, both the directors and the managers are highly skilled, technically, and are chosen for ability only. Much larger capital is employed. The bulk of the output is infinitely greater. The organisation and equipment is better, even in modest offices like Benjamin Franklin's offices at Philadelphia, which were visited. The American's wider vision is only exceeded by his enthusiasm, whilst his enterprise transcends the whole, and is an eye-opener to the phlegmatic Britisher. He organises on the grand scale, both as to buildings, floor space, and equipment, and draws every cent's value out of his investment. The director of one huge firm told Mr. Hart that for twenty years the whole of their surpluses had been applied to extensions; the business as seen was simply colossal. This enterprise, too, was further exemplified in New York, where a syndicate of printers and allied trades owned and occupied a large building of twenty-one floors—called the Printing Crafts Building—with a total floor space of fifteen acres. The proprietor of a large section was Mr. Charles Francis, who had been a member of the L.S.C. and had worked at Straker's in Camomile-street in the '60's.

In conclusion, Mr. Hart added that everywhere he and his companions were received with extreme kindness and courtesy.

Discussion.

On the conclusion of Mr. Hart's lecture the meeting was thrown open for questions and discussion, Mr. W. Howard Hazell, from the chair, making a start by some interesting references to his own American tours, which enabled him to corroborate some of the points made by Mr. Hart.

Mr. J. R. Riddell had some comments to make on technical education in America, and emphasised especially the stress laid in the States on care in the selection of boys for training. He remarked, too, upon the efficiency of the foundry in America, maintaining that the thoroughness of foundry work in producing plates requiring a minimum of make-ready was the strongest point in American printing trade organisation.

In answer to Mr. J. W. Carley, Mr. Hart said that the ratio of managerial work to directly productive labour was greater in America than here. He was struck with the number of departments over there, each with separate management.

After a number of other questions had been asked and answered, Mr. T. W. McAra and Mr. H. W. Howes, who were both on the platform, moved and seconded respectively a cordial vote of thanks to the lecturer and the chairman. This was carried with acclamation, and the meeting ended with a brief response from Mr. Hart.

Sales of Printing Plant.

The plant and machinery of the Clerkenwell Folding Box Co., Ltd., 12, Clerkenwell-green, came under the hammer last week, Mr. Edwin W. Evans, 150, Fleet-street, being the auctioneer. There was a fair attendance of buyers, but prices were rather low. A 40-inch lever millboard cutter, by Leber, brought £12; a 39-inch rotary cutter, by Furnival, £14; and a nearly new 29½ inch rotary cutter, by J. Grieg and Sons, £25. A nearly new, Size II., No. 29 folding box wire stitching machine, by Hampson, Bettridge and Co., was knocked down for £17 10s.; a 16-inch "Prakma" folding box glueing machine for £13; a similar machine brought the same price, and a third went for £12 10s., a 12 inch "Prakma" going for £8 10s. A "Universal" cutting and creasing press, by the National Machine Co., 24½ by 24½ inches inside chase, sold for £17 10s.; a demy folio Colt's heavy platen press brought £18, and a crown "Caxton" platen £40; a royal folio "Caxton" went for £35. A nearly new 38-inch diagonal guillotine paper cutting machine, by Crossland, went cheap at £60. A skellet folding, glueing, and rolling machine, by M. C. Ritchie, sold for £105; a demy folio "Britannia" platen, by Furnival, for £60; and a demy folio "Mitre" platen, by Dawson, for £10. A 39½-inch rotary cutting and scoring machine, by Friedheim, went for £75, and a "Universal" steel rule bender for £6 15s.

Mr. R. H. Ruddock, of 71, Fleet-street, E.C., conducted a sale last week of surplus machinery and plant, disposed of at 27, Camomile-street, E.C., by order of the proprietor, who had removed to more commodious premises. Among the prices got were the following:—A crown "Imperial Albion" proof press, by Matthews, £9; a "Universal" stereotyping machine, fitted for power, with saw and drilling attachments, etc., £5 5s.; a demy folio "Bremner" platen, £10 10s.; a demy folio "Bremner" Wharfedale, £60; a quad demy Wharfedale, by Furnival, £12 10s.; a double crown "Bremner" cylinder printing machine, £19; a 32-inch self-clamp guillotine, by Furnival, £26; a double demy "Bremner" cylinder press, £65; an 8 h.p. "National" gas engine, £5; a double crown sectional folding machine, £40; a 32-inch "Express" guillotine, by Furnival, £25; a quarto "Monarch" platen, by Hampson, Bettridge and Co., £16 10s.; a "Cropperette" platen, £16; a double royal Wharfedale, by Payne and Sons, £52 10s.; a crown folio platen, by Cropper, £10; a demy folio, by Cropper, £14; a royal self-

inking "Lightning" proof press, by Soldon, £32 10s.; and a double demy Wharfedale, by Payne and Sons, for £115.

Printers' Managers and Overseers ASSOCIATION.

Important Business at Annual Meeting.

There was a good rally of members at the annual general meeting of the P. M. and O. A. held at the "Old Bell," Holborn, on Tuesday of last week, when the agenda included several important items of business.

The minutes of the November meeting having been read and approved, the secretary mentioned that apologies for unavoidable absence had been received from Mr. E. H. Berryman (detained by illness), also from Mr. G. Phillips and Mr. W. H. Mann.

Mr. W. F. Hill (C. F. Roworth, 88, Fetterlane: (overseer—machine), was elected a member, and Mr. A. E. Jarvis, in the chair, gave him a personal welcome into the Association.

Report and Balance-Sheet.

The next business was the consideration of the twenty-eighth annual report and balance-sheet (previously circulated to members).

The balance-sheet was taken first and Mr. Jarvis read the report of the senior auditor, Mr. Mann, who expressed entire satisfaction with the accounts and stated that every assistance had been given for the thorough scrutiny of books and vouchers. He congratulated the secretaries and the Association as a whole upon the very business-like way in which the accounts are kept. The junior auditor, Mr. H. W. Jackson, was present and corroborated what Mr. Mann had written. The adoption of the balance-sheet was unanimously approved.

The annual report was then considered. When the president invited members to find something to say about it, Mr. S. A. Dawson proved willing to oblige, and, by a few words of rather slashing criticism, succeeded in evoking some lively discussion. His principal point was a suggestion that the revision-of-rules committee had not proved efficient. He also inquired as to the times of committee meetings and number of evenings occupied thereby.

Mr. A. W. Hart reverted to the question of attendances and wanted to know how much time a committee member must put in at a meeting before being allowed to sign the book.

In the course of discussion personal criticisms were exchanged between several members, but the subject was not deemed worthy of further time being spent upon it, the president, secretary and others having assured the meeting that attendances were in general satisfactory and that members were doing their best for the Association.

The report was passed unanimously.

The question of the prizes provided by the

Association for technical students was next considered. On the motion of Mr. G. H. T. Freeman, it was agreed to leave this matter to be decided by the Council.

New Council and Officers.

Four scrutineers were next selected and voting papers distributed for the election of ten members to fill vacancies on the Council.

Mr. Jarvis announced that as a result of the nominations at the November meeting, the following were elected unopposed:—President, Mr. S. M. Bateman; vice president, Mr. R. H. Berry; treasurer, Mr. C. Durston; trustees, Messrs. J. C. Pugh and G. Phillips; general secretary, Mr. E. W. Whittle; financial secretary, Mr. W. H. Gill; hon. technical secretary, Mr. H. Blackwell. Mr. Jarvis mentioned that this was his last appearance as president. He thanked members for the support given him during his term of office and bespoke the same consideration for his successor, Mr. S. M. Bateman. He then shook hands with Mr. Bateman, welcoming him as the new president.

Mr. Bateman, having been installed as chairman, thanked members for the honour done to him and assured them that he would do his best for the Association.

Mr. R. H. Berry expressed himself in similar fashion. Referring to the third pension effort, entered upon under Mr. Jarvis's leadership, he suggested it would be a fine compliment to the retiring president and a relief to the incoming officers if the third pension were completed this year.

Mr. Jarvis read a letter from Mr. Mortimer warmly thanking the Association for their cheque for £200, the second contribution on the pension account.

Brief speeches followed by others of the officers elected, including Mr. E. W. Whittle, Mr. C. Durston, Mr. J. C. Pugh and Mr. W. H. Gill.

Presentation to Mr. Jarvis.

A departure from the Association's past custom was made on this occasion, a presentation being made to the retiring president. Mr. Bateman, on behalf of the Council, handed Mr. Jarvis a gold medallion badge of the Association bearing Mr. Jarvis's name and years of office engraved on the back. He expressed the Association's good wishes for the future, remarking that Mr. Jarvis had won everybody's respect by the way in which he had conducted the business of the Association during his two years as president.

Mr. Jarvis responded, expressing his thanks and appreciation. Looking to the future he said he thought the Association was going to figure much more largely in the affairs of the trade than in the past. For that reason modification of their rules might have to be effected more frequently than at present.

Membership Qualification.

Consideration was next given to a recommendation by the Council: "That a special delegate meeting be held in February, 1922, to consider the proposed alteration to Rule 4."

The secretary fully explained the position

with regard to this alteration, the purport of which is to restrict membership in the Association to actual managers or overseers as distinguished from working managers or overseers. He intimated that the Yorkshire Centre had strongly supported the Parent Association's proposal, but the other Centres had rejected it on the ground that the alteration would hinder their extending their membership. He pointed out the urgency of the matter in view of their relations with the Typographical Association, and strongly opposed the suggestion that the matter be postponed to the next delegate meeting in 1923.

Messrs. Bateman, Pugh, Dawson, Gill, Burton and Barker took part in a discussion on this point, all stressing the need for prompt action in safeguarding the status of the Association in the manner proposed. It was pointed out that the proposal was not retrospective; present members would not be affected.

The Council's recommendation being put to the vote, it was adopted unanimously.

Under "General Business" the secretary proposed a grant from the Benevolent Fund of £10 to Mrs J. M. Rignall, of Dublin, widow of a late much respected member. This was approved.

On the proposition of Mr. Dawson, the Association's best thanks were given to the retiring members of the Council.

The meeting then resolved itself into a special general meeting to consider a recommendation by the Council: "To add to Article 9 of Regulations for Affiliated Centres:—On acceptance of a member the nomination form to be forwarded to the Parent Association."

The advantages of the general secretary having a complete record of membership were pointed out, and after a short discussion the Council's recommendation was unanimously endorsed.

The meeting closed with the announcement of the results of the election for Council. The ten members elected, with votes obtained were: Messrs. F. W. Hume and A. E. Jarvis, 83 each; R. Condliff, 70; W. H. Mann, 68; J. A. B. Reed, 65; A. W. Paul, 59; H. Roberts, 57; R. B. Hardie, 57; H. J. Gallon, 56; and R. Simpson, 55.

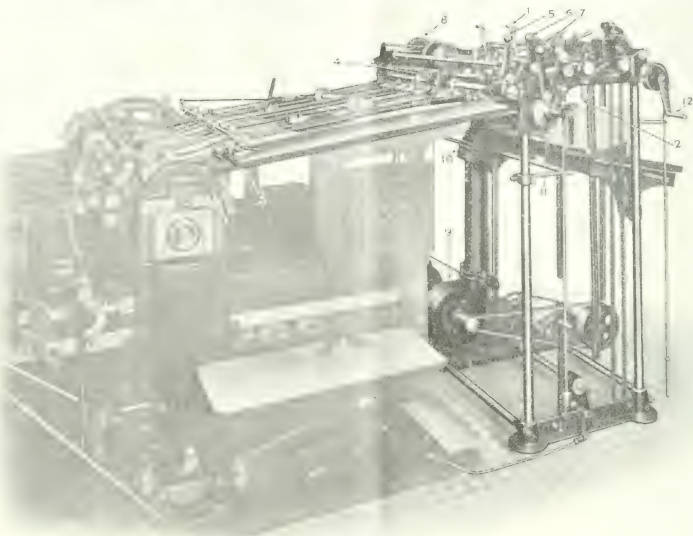
St. Bride Foundation Printing School

An examination in costing under the auspices of the Stationers' Company and Printing Industry Technical Board takes place at Stationers' Hall at 6.30 on Monday next, December 19th, when close on 100 candidates are due to take the examination.

Enrolments are now being made for the autumn term of instruction in costing, salesmanship, offset printing, collotype and printing ink. It is desirable that those wishing to take up any of these classes should make immediate application to the Principal.

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Trade Notes.

EMPLOYERS confer with the Typographical Association representatives to-day (Thursday) regarding mono-caster attendants.

MR. FREDERICK JAMES WINKLEY, of South-wark-street, London Bridge, printer and stationer, who died on Oct. 17th, left property of the gross value of £11,366.

A MASS for the repose of the soul of the late Mr. A. Chris. Fowler will be said at 10 o'clock on Friday morning (Dec. 16th) at St. Mary's Church, Eldon-street, E.C.

WE understand negotiations are proceeding between the London Master Printers' Association and the London Society of Compositors in connection with the new line piece scale.

WE hear that the London Master Printers Association has asked for a conference with the London Society of Compositors on the 19th inst. to discuss the proposed reduction of half-a-crown in wages.

LOUIS STERCK, aged 42, Belgian, described as a process operator, Old Compton-street, W.C., was at Bow-street on Tuesday remanded on a provisional extradition warrant charging him with forging banknotes.

PRINTING and bookbinding machinery imported into Canada during the five months ended August, 1921, was of the value of £12,000, as against £1,522 last year and £775,000 during the five months of 1919.

COPYRIGHT OF DESIGNS.—The Federation of Master Printers is taking legal opinion as to the best way of protecting the interests of its members in this matter, which is of special importance to the lithographic section of the trade.

OUR subscribers, Messrs. Laxmichand Dossabhai and Bros., of Rajkot, India, are compiling an illustrated volume "The Prince of Wales and Princes of India," and would be glad to get in touch with printers in this country with a view to having the production carried out here.

A MEETING of the committee of the Linotype Users' Association will be held at 24, Holborn, on January 11th, when the business will be the winding-up of the affairs of the Linotype Users' Association with a view to the Association being merged with the Newspaper Society, as empowered by resolution of the annual meeting of members on May 11th, 1921.

MRS. LILIAN MARY THRING was charged at Bow-street on Friday in relation to an article which had appeared in a paper called *Out of Work*, of which she was editress. Edward Froude, printer, Old Kent-road, was summoned in connection with the printing of the paper. It was alleged that the article was calculated to cause disaffection among the police and to induce them to withhold their services. Mr. Froude was bound over in £50. Mrs. Thring was fined £10, and given 21 days in which to pay.

MESSRS. JAS. TODD AND SON are to build a new printing works in Sunderland.

MR. JOHN W. COGHLAN, journalist, of Manchester, died on Thursday last, aged 52.

LAST week saw the appearance of No. 1 of the *Steering Wheel*, a fortnightly journal for taxicab owners.

THE late Mr. William Henry Poole, of Stamford, editor of the *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury* for 28 years, left £791.

THE Rochdale Branch of the Typographical Association are giving their superannuated members 10s. each as a Christmas Box.

THE death took place at his residence in Queen-street, Bridgend, on Sunday, of Mr. R. H. Dyer, printer, at the age of 73.

MR. W. M. BAMFORD, editor of the *Co-operative News* and of other periodicals of the co-operative movement, died on Tuesday.

THE Spanish Carlist newspaper *El Correo Espanol*, which, during the war, was one of the most pronounced pro-German organs in Spain, has ceased publication.

ALDERMAN LAMBERT FLETCHER, of Walmersley-road, Bury, letterpress printer, the oldest member of the Town Council, and for several years mayor, left £7,050.

FLEET-STREET journalists and representatives of the printing trade attended a memorial service to the late Sir Arthur Pearson at St. Clement Danes on Tuesday.

THE proprietors of the publication *Piccadilly*, Messrs. Hogg and Knight, Ltd., 49, Strand, London, last week, successfully sued a Leamington firm of furnisiers for £39 6s. being the cost of making and supplying seven printing blocks.

MESSRS. HILL, SIFFKEN and Co., LTD., inform us that in the recent competitions at the Printing Exhibition held in April-May last, the judges have awarded them the Gold Medal for their exhibit of pictorial posters, this being the second occasion upon which they have gained the Gold Medal for posters.

MESSRS. LANGLEY AND SONS, LTD., of the Euston Press, N.W.1. send us a copy of an interesting new booklet they have issued, giving reproductions of some of the posters they exhibited at the last International Printing Trades Exhibition. At the same time they inform us that they have just received an intimation that we have again been awarded the Gold Medal for this Exhibition.

BOOKS FOR LATVIA.—Writing from the Mansion House, Sir John Baddeley appeals for standard works in our language—disused school books, scientific, engineering, and other professional works—for which their owners no longer have any use. He thus hopes to be able to make a New Year gift to Latvia of at least 50,000 volumes. Gifts should be sent to Sir Alfred T. Davies, K.B.E., C.B., care of The Consul-General for Latvia, 329, Holborn, London, W.C.1.



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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1921.

Current Topics.

The Approach of Christmas.

ALTHOUGH Christmas is so close upon us, it has to be reported, we fear, that the marked improvement of trade which the season should bring has not materialised to anything like the extent hoped for. Certain firms have experienced a rush of orders, and there has doubtless been some general improvement in the trade, but the old-style Christmas boom, in which all capacities of the industry were strained to the utmost and practically all the unemployed absorbed, has failed to make its appearance.

Christmas Holidays.

WITH the holidays at hand, the employers' associations and the trade unions are notifying their members as to the arrangements made therefor by national agreement. Under the terms of the Hours and Holidays' Agreement, December 26th and 27th, which are to be observed as Bank Holidays, should be regarded as recognised holidays for the printing trade. The following decision arrived at by

the Hours and Holidays Committee on July 22nd last, regarding payment for Bank Holidays, is applicable to the Christmas holidays where short time is operative: "In the case of any employees who are working short time, payment for Bank Holidays shall be one-sixth of the weekly wages earned taking the average of the four weeks immediately prior to the holiday. Payment shall be made at full rate if full time is resumed in the week in which the Bank Holiday occurs." Attention is also drawn to the clause in the agreement which states that "the closing down on the day preceding or following a recognised holiday shall be a matter for mutual agreement in each establishment," and any extension of the holiday should be decided upon in accordance with this clause. The term "mutual agreement" means that the decision to extend the holiday should be approved by a majority of the employees.

Export Credits.

FROM all accounts greater interest is being taken in the new export credits scheme by merchants and manufacturers and it is stated that applications for large amounts have been made to the Department of Overseas Trade. The interest displayed by manufacturers has been marked, as hitherto the bulk of our export trade has been conducted through merchant houses. Negotiations are in progress which are expected to lead to a great deal of fresh business.

Personal.

MR. CHARLES HIGHAM, M.P., is one of those to whom a Knighthood has been granted on the termination of the post-war work of the Ministry of Transport, in recognition of services rendered.

MR. HIGHAM, who is head of the well-known firm of advertising agents, Charles F. Higham, Ltd., entered Fleet-street 15 years ago as manager to Messrs. W. H. Smith and Sons' Advertising Agency, and two years later started in business for himself.

MR. R. B. FISHENDEN, M.Sc.Tech., has been lecturing to Cambridge printers on the subject of "Simplicity and Progress in Commercial Printing." A report is unavoidably held over to next week.

MR. W. WARREN, general secretary of the National Society of Electrotypers and Stereotypers delivered an address on the apprenticeship question at the monthly meeting of the Electrotypers and Stereotypers Managers and Overseers Association on Tuesday evening.

Central London Master Printers.

Fourth Bohemian Concert.

Success attended the bohemian concert with which the Association of Master Printers of the Central London Districts opened their winter session on Wednesday of last week. Mr. J. D. McAra, F.C.I.S., the president, was in the chair, supported by the vice-chairman, Mr. Oscar C. Griffith, and the committee, whilst the Association's energetic hon. secretary, Mr. W. H. Burchell, was very much to the fore supervising everything and helping to make the visitors feel at home. There was an excellent attendance, the audience including a good proportion of ladies. Many well-known central London printers were present, and one noticed also visitors from other associations, and several representatives of 24 Holborn.

The chairman opened the proceedings with a short speech, in the course of which he made the audience cordially welcome, and referred with satisfaction to the fact that the concert synchronised with the reaching of a settlement in Ireland which would result, it was hoped, in an increase in that security and stability now so much desired.

L.M.P.A. President's Speech.

Mr. R. A. Austen Leigh was present and during an interval of the concert programme was asked to address the gathering, which he accordingly did in a short humorous speech. Referring to the indeterminate nature of the "turn" required of him, he remarked that though his speech immediately followed some imitations of cries heard in the Zoo, he was not going to provide imitations of master printers at a general meeting, or anything of that sort. (Laughter.) After expressing wonderment at the multiplicity of Mr. Burchell's activities, including his efforts toward the reduction of the postal rates, he went on to indicate some of the many calls made upon the time and energies of an L.M.P.A. president, and he intimated that it would be with some relief that he would shortly be handing over the presidency to his successor.

Limitations of space forbid a detailed review of the concert programme, but the many items rendered by Mr. Claude Chandler's party provided an entertainment which was evidently enjoyed very thoroughly. Perhaps the item that evoked the loudest applause was one of Mr. Chandler's own contributions, a clever ventriloquial sketch, but the whole concert was a good one. It included songs by Miss Una Worth, and Miss Jennifer Gwyn; Mr. Noel Pherns showed himself a gifted comedian, and Mr. Lawrence Jackson proved an able pianist; whilst baritone songs by Mr. David Openshaw gained well-deserved applause. A very varied programme was brought to a bright conclusion by a burlesque of a Shakespearean scene in which Miss Gwyn and Messrs. Chandler, Pherns and Openshaw took part.

Trade Union Matters.

"NATSOPA" BALLOT INVALID.—The ballot, which took place in May last, on the question of imposing a levy of from 6d. to 4s. on members of the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants, was declared invalid in the Chancery Division on Wednesday of last week. The action was brought at the instance of certain members who declared that the ballot was not taken in accordance with the rules of the society. Mr. Justice Sargant said it was held by the plaintiffs that the executive council had no right to re-submit immediately a question that had already been decided. That objection, his lordship said, was unsustainable. The officials of the society were satisfied that the position of the society was critical, and it was their duty to call the attention anew to the position of affairs. One objection, however, must prevail. It was quite clear that the rules were violated, because the scrutiny was made by a series of individuals who had no right to act in that capacity. As a result, plaintiffs were not bound to pay the levy authorised by that ballot as a condition of their retaining their membership or receiving the benefits of the society. Defendants must pay costs of the action.

WHETHER the L.S.C. general secretary, Mr. T. E. Naylor is or is not, for the time being, to carry M.P. after his name is expected to be known by the time this issue is in the readers' hands. A manifesto in support of Mr. Naylor has been issued by the General Council of the Trade Union Congress, the National Executive of the Labour Party, and the Parliamentary Labour Party. The manifesto says: "Mr. Naylor's whole public life proves him to be exactly what he declares himself to be—a Labour man who has at heart the best interests and welfare of all who work by hand or brain."

THE Association of Correctors of the Press having come to the conclusion that printers' readers are not eligible under the Unemployment Insurance Act, is instructing its members to discontinue contributions. The Association proposes to establish a scheme of its own.

WE understand that no agreement has been reached after a conference in London between representatives of the Federation of Master Printers and the Typographical Association on the question of the enforcement of a fortnight's notice being given individually by employers before wages could be reduced in accordance with the national agreement.

THE London offices of the T.A. have been removed to 60, Doughty-street, W.C.1, the headquarters of the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation. Mr. F. Duckett has been elected secretary in place of Mr. J. A. Ratcliffe.

THE North Wales and Border Counties Group of the T.A. is organising a Christmas Prize Draw in aid of the funds of the Group.

Commercial Intelligence.

CURRENT SHARE PRICES.

Amalgamated Press, 5¹/₂, 5¹/₂, Pref., 15s. 9d.; Associated Newspapers, Ord., 7 p.c. Cum., 17s. 9d., Pref., 14s. 3d.; Jos. Byrom, 11s. 6d., 12s. 3d.; *Daily Mirror* Newspapers, 8 p.c. Cum. Pref., 18s.; Thomas De la Rue, 8 p.c. Conv. 1st Mt. Deb. Stock (iss. at 98, £50 pd.), 50¹/₂, 50¹/₂; Ilford, P.N., Lamson Paragon, 15s. 10 p.c. Cum. Pref., f.p., 21s. 9d., 21s. 3d., (ditto paid up by instalments), 21s. 4¹/₂d.; Lanston Monotype Corporation, 10s. 9d., 11s.; Linotype A Deb., 51¹/₂, B Deb., 52¹/₂; Edward Lloyd, Pref., 16s. 6d.; Chas. Morgan, 7s.; George Newnes, 13s. 3d., Pref., 12s. 3d.; Odham's Press, 9s. 6d., 8 p.c. Cum. Pref., 15s. 6d., 15s. 3d.; Sunday Pictorial Newspapers, Pref., 16s. 6d., 16s. 13d.; Raphael Tuck, 16s. 6d., Pref., 6os.; Wall-Paper Manufacturers, 10s. 6d., Def., 4s.; Pref., 12s.; Warrillows, 21s. 6d., 21s. 10¹/₂d.; Waterlow and Sons Del., 14¹/₂, 14¹/₂, Prefd., 8¹/₂; Weldon's, 33s. 3d., Pref., 15s. 6d.; Winterbottom Book Cloth, 13, 13¹/₂.

DIVIDENDS AND REPORTS.

ARGUS PRINTING CO.—Accounts to October 31st, 1921, show net profit, after providing for debenture interest, depreciation, etc., of £9,113, making available, with £10,102 brought forward, £19,215. Further dividend of 7 per cent., making 10 per cent., carrying £9,477 forward.

AMALGAMATED PRESS.—Report of Amalgamated Press for the year ended Oct. 31st, 1921, shows profits, after writing off depreciation of plant and buildings, etc., of £368,206. Directors recommend final dividend of 5s. a share on Ordinary, free of tax. In view of abnormal conditions and very high cost of buildings and plant directors have considered it necessary to write off a considerable amount of cost of new building and plant.

"TIMES" PUBLISHING CO.—Accounts of *Times* Publishing Co. for year ended June 30th, 1921, show, after including credit for taxes recoverable and £23,890 brought forward, an available balance of £38,617; from this must be deducted preference dividend (paid in September last), leaving balance of £22,617 to be carried forward.

LADY'S PICTORIAL.—Accounts of *Lady's Pictorial and Sporting and Dramatic Pub-*

lishing Co. to September 30th, 1921, show loss of £817. After providing for directors' fees, etc., and including £1,000 estimated surplus of reserve for doubtful debts, £1,428 brought forward and £3,000 transferred from reserve, there is available £4,603. Directors propose dividend at rate of 5 per cent. per annum on preference shares for half-year to March 31st. Investments have been written down to approximate market value and depreciation, £9,000, has been charged to reserve.

NEW COMPANIES.

R. L. BEALL AND SONS (NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE), LTD.—Capital £2,000 in £1 shares. To take over the business of printers carried on at 42, Trafalgar-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, as "R. L. Beall and Sons," and to carry on the business of booksellers, stationers, account book manufacturers, paper manufacturers, tag and label manufacturers, paper bag makers, etc. Private company. Directors: R. L. Beall, J. L. Beall and C. L. Beall. Registered office, 42, Trafalgar-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

LANCASTER PRESS, LTD.—Capital £1,000 in £5 shares. To take over the business of printers, stationers, etc., carried on by S. J. M. Pratt and A. A. Applegate, at White Horse-street, Fakenham, Norfolk, as the "Lancaster Press." Private company. Directors: S. J. M. Pratt, A. A. Applegate and Mrs. K. Pratt.

BELMAN AND SON, LTD.—Capital £1,000 in £1 shares. General stationers, general merchants, etc. Private company. First directors: Mrs. E. Belman, A. Belman, S. Belman and H. S. Girvan. Registered office, 252, West George-street, Glasgow.

A. C. NORMINGTON, LTD.—Capital £1,000 in £1 shares. To undertake and transact insurance and other agency business, to carry on business as printers, stationers, company promoters, financiers, etc. Private company. Directors: A. C. Normington and G. R. Fowler. Registered office, 17, Gracechurch-street, E.C.

NEW CHROMATIC PROGRAMME CO., LTD.—Capital £500 in £5 shares. To acquire the rights of publication and to print "The Chromatic Programme of London Amusements." Private company. First directors: G. M. Williams, H. W. Hyde and W. K.

Stretch. Registered office, 108, Long acre, W. C.2.

SCHOOL GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING CO., LTD. (London).—Capital £1,000 in £1 shares. Newspaper proprietors, publishers, printers, etc. Private company. Subscribers: W. F. Cornish and A. Darby. First directors by subscribers.

THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE, LTD.—Registered December 6th as a company limited by guarantee, without share capital. Proprietors and publishers of newspapers, journals, magazines, etc. The directors shall be the general secretaries of the Theosophical Society in England and Wales, in Scotland and in Ireland, the first being: Major D. G. Pole, Mrs. J. R. Bindley and P. L. Pielou. Registered office, 9, St. Martin-street, W.C.2.

FLEET ADVERTISING CO., LTD.—Capital £1,000 in £1 shares. Private company. First directors: E. C. Wood, W. H. Skinner, W. E. Doluake, W. Stockwell, W. F. Skinner and S. Barnard. Registered office, 34, New Kent-road, S.E.

COMPANY MORTGAGES AND CHARGES.

Fresh Obligations registered pursuant to Section 43 of the Companies' (Consolidation) Act, 1908, and Satisfaction registered pursuant to Section 47 of the same Act. (The registration of Satisfaction is not compulsory).

PREMIER PRINTING CO. (BRIGHOUSE), LTD.—Satisfaction in full on November 28th, 1921, of mortgage dated March 28th, 1916, securing £2,000.

HEWITT AND RUDGE, LTD. (Printers).—Mortgage dated November 24th, 1921, to secure £604 3s. 4d., charged on certain land and premises in Whitley Bay. Holders: North Shields Standard Permanent Building Society.

NATIONAL LABOUR PRESS, LTD. (Manchester).—Satisfaction in full on October 10th, 1919, of debenture and covenant dated September 13th, 1918, securing £1,250.

NATIONAL LABOUR PRESS, LTD.—Mortgage dated December 1st, 1921, to secure £1,500, charged on 17, Albion-street, Leicester. Holders: Leicester Co-operative Society.

COPELAND-CHATTERSON CO., LTD. (Manufacturers of perpetual ledgers, manifold billing systems, binders, etc.).—Deposit on November 19th, 1921, of deeds of Dudbridge Lewers Mills, near Stroud, Glos., and freehold land adjoining, to secure all moneys due or to become due from company to Lloyds Bank not exceeding £5,000.

FLEET JOURNALS, LTD. (London).—Debenture dated October 27th, 1921, to secure £300, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Holder: T. Malcolmson, "Powerscourt," Redhill, Surrey.

EBURITE PAPER CO. (1919), LTD. (Paddington, W.).—Particulars of £20,000 debentures authorised November 9th, 1921; present issue £3,000; charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital.



Mr. Charles Bussey.

MR. CHARLES BUSSEY, the esteemed representative of the Groult Engraving Co., Ltd., whose death we announced last week, came of an old journalistic family, being the youngest son of the late Harry Findlater Bussey, "the father of Fleet-street," author of "Fifty Years of Journalism," etc., and one of the five famous brothers, whose work in the Reporters' Gallery of the House of Commons was so well known in the "eighties." Charles was apprenticed to a lithographic artist, and at the age of 21 took charge of the art department in one of the largest printing firms in Manchester. He practised line engraving before photography was generally used, drawing his own illustrations on paper, transferring them by a hand press to zinc, and often drawing direct on to the metal when working for the newspaper press. He contributed illustrations to the *Manchester Guardian*, the *Manchester Evening News*, and the *Sunday Chronicle*, and all the journals of the Hulton group, also for most of the other Lancashire weeklies. He had been "on the road" for over 20 years, and found his early training in art of immense value in preparing designs, "lay outs," and suggestions for his customers. His association with the Groult company had been most happy and great regret is expressed at his sudden demise.

Mr. Henry Reeves.

THE town of Andover, Hampshire, was poorer by the death, on December 5th, of Mr. Henry Reeves. The deceased gentleman, who had reached the age of 77 years, was apprenticed in 1858 to the *Andover Standard Printing Co., Ltd.*, with which firm he was continuously identified for a period of 63 years, occupying the position of printer. Mr. Reeves was not only a keen craftsman during all those years of service, but built up for himself a reputation among his fellows for sterling ability and character. The funeral, which took place on Saturday at the Andover Cemetery, was attended by a large assembly of friends, and there were many floral tributes.

Mr. George Robb.

MR. GEORGE ROBB, master printer and lithographer, of Aberdeen, died on Thursday last from heart failure, at the age of 76. Mr. Robb was formerly foreman in Messrs. Macniven and Cameron's lithographic establishment at Edinburgh. In 1867 he commenced business as a lithographer in Aberdeen, and gradually built up a substantial business. On the occasion of the jubilee of his business in 1917 he was entertained by the master printers of Aberdeen, and presented with handsome gifts. His son, Mr. A. B. Robb, solicitor, is the Town Clerk of Portsoy.

The Bookbinder.

Bindery Costing : A Call for Education.

It will be remembered that the writer of our bookbinding "Notes and News" made further reference to the time docket last month, when the Federation of Master Printers came in for some criticism from his pen on account of the silence which has apparently been allowed to descend upon the subject of the bookbinders' docket. These strictures received further emphasis through our correspondence last week, Mr. H. Vick, of Manchester having written to register his protest against the alleged negligence of the Federation officials in allowing this urgent matter to be side-tracked.

Some Healthy Impatience.

As a rule, it is best for all concerned that anything in the nature of a trade grievance should be given frank and open expression, and certainly it is a healthy sign that we should have people of standing in the trade expressing themselves so strongly on the need for the general adoption of the binder's docket, and the harm that is done by delay in the introduction of this reform. The allegation of apathy on the part of the Federation officials is, however, another matter, and our own feeling is—though no word of protest has reached us on the subject—that the criticism put forward is hardly fair. We take it that the Federation of Master Printers, which has among those at its head several of our most eager exponents of scientific cost-finding, is very much alive to the need for accurate costs data from the binding department, as from every other section of a business. During the past few months, however, the air has been full of the wages dispute, and not only have the foremost advocates of bindery costing been largely occupied therewith, but the atmosphere of a wages struggle is surely the least satisfactory one in which to attempt a forward movement in the direction of the overcoming of old-standing prejudices and the closer co-operation of workpeople with employers. Moreover, is it wise to try to force this question in any way while there are large numbers of employees—and, we fear, a certain proportion of employers as well—who have not yet realised the present-day necessity for scientific cost-finding?

Progress Being Made.

But though no very tangible advance can be announced at the moment, we believe the costing authorities are by no means trying to

shelve the question of the binders' docket, but that they are relying rather upon educative than upon legislative action as promising a happy issue out of the present difficulty. Meanwhile continual, if gradual, progress is being made in the right direction. It is clear that the inevitability of exact costing is now being increasingly recognised on every hand. A notable feature of Mr. George Eaton Hart's review of American printing, reported on another page of this issue, is his emphasis upon the detailed cost-finding insisted upon in the States, and his assurance that more thorough costing goes hand in hand with increased efficiency. A most encouraging sign of progress on this side of the Atlantic is the recent action of our Joint Industrial Council in giving its sanction to the Federation Costing System. Employers and trade unionists having both accepted the principle of exact cost-finding, its application to all departments of production is surely only a matter of time. With a little more experience of its working, and education as to its necessity, the bindery docket will be freed from the prejudice which in some minds suggests impracticability in its use or detriment to workpeople through its misapplication.

Educate! Educate!

The great need of the moment in regard to scientific cost-finding is education, and particularly education of the worker. Recent experiments in the direction of organising joint costing meetings for employers and employed have given most promising results. Much could be done, too, by individual employers if they would find means to inform their workpeople of the necessity—in justice to customers, employees, and employer alike—that exact data of the cost of every job should be obtainable. Let those who realise the value of accurate cost-finding lose no opportunity of spreading the knowledge of the subject throughout every section of the trade. Scientific costing for bookbinders as well as for printers is a cause that is assured of eventual victory; the achievement of that victory will be hastened by every effort put forward to assist the educative process.

MR. F. O. ROBERTS, M.P., the representative of the T.A. in Parliament, is making an appeal throughout the trade for the poor of West Bromwich, his constituency.

Binding Notes and News.

The Docket Situation.

Mr. Vick need not apologise for pursuing the binders' docket subject to further lengths considering the service that he is rendering to an important branch of the industry. It is due to the efforts of such as he that progress is made possible. In this particular problem it is incredible that we should have reached an impasse such as we appear to have come up against. The whole position is so confusing and contradictory owing to the vagaries that exist. Yet there they are and it remains for Mr. Vick, Mr. Harraway and a few others to press for a clearer and more cohesive policy in regard to this particular issue.

Dullness of Trade.

The binding industry is still in the throes of the slump, with small prospect of early improvement. Normally at this season of the year an amount of overtime is being worked, but instead of that short time is now the rule. On every hand one hears of staffs growing smaller and smaller, and still the hours of work have to be curtailed. The large users of books appear to have no requirements at all, and the evidence all round points to stocks bought in more prosperous days, which still remain to be worked off. All hopes are centred on the coming of the New Year, and there is a feeling that conditions will then improve. Our own opinion is that though trade may turn a little in the right direction there can be no return to normal business until the international situation rights itself. The number of books used up and required depends entirely upon the volume of general trade in the country, and as our trade is mainly dependent upon exports it follows that our prosperity is bound up with that of the world generally. The demand for ledgers and account books will increase when our engineers are sending engines and machines to Russia and when our cotton goods are being despatched to India and the East. Meantime the need for goodwill and realisation of each other's difficulties, between Union and Federation members is greater than ever. The burden of depression is weighted equally in each panner, and the load will appear so much lighter by recognition of the fact.

The Materials Market.

The market for bookbinding materials has not undergone any drastic change of late. Leathers remain at the prices which have ruled for several months past, the following representing average figures:—Glazed skivers, 5d. to 7d. per square foot; embossed skivers, 6d. to 8d. per square foot; glazed basils, 7d. to 10d.; roller basils, 6½d. to 8d.; fair basils, 8½d. to 11d.; rough sheep, 8d. and 9d. per foot; fleashes, 7d.; rough morocco, 10d. to 1s.; rough calf, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d.; fair calf, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d.; pigskins, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 3d.; anglo's, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 3d.; goats, 2s. to 2s. 6d.

Leather Bargains.

The tanners and leather merchants are making up special parcels of skins at clearance prices prior to stocktaking and some very useful bargains are to be picked up at the moment. Red glazed basils for quarter binding are on offer at 5d. per foot, and good, clear skins for best work at 8½d. per foot. Well selected roller basils are offered at 7½d. per square foot, and clearance skivers at 4½d. to 5½d. in a series of colours and designs. Undoubtedly to the house which can afford it the present is a good time to buy leather against probable requirements. The improved demand in the boot trade is said to be exercising an influence on the price of hides for bookbinding purposes, particularly, of course, anglos and calfs. A steady demand would no doubt eventually harden the market but up to now that effect has not been felt.

Long-Wearing Leathers.

J. Hewitt and Sons, of Edinburgh, are demonstrating some office books and furniture, covered or upholstered in pigskin, morocco and calf leather which has seen 20 to 40 years' service. We are told that despite the long record of continuous use, the material is very little the worse for wear. If all modern leathers could offer the same prospect the bookbinder would lose a lot of repair work in the next twenty years. That is one way of looking at it, though it doesn't reflect much credit.

Adhesives, Cloths, Gold and Boards.

Glues, bookcloths, calicoes and fabrics generally remain unaltered in price. There has been a reduction in "Rex" dry paste and to the user who can place ton contracts there is a very considerable advantage to be gained. Gold leaf is a little easier and ample stocks are available in this country. A reduction in the price of book edge locks and fittings is announced, and makers are badly in need of orders. Millboards are down in price, but the best machine and hand-made boards are still three to four times their pre-war price. Dutch strawboards are quoted £8 10s. per ton, 8 to 16 oz. basis, with usual extras. Supplies are gradually being reduced and a hardening movement would not be altogether unexpected.

THE editor of the *Allahabad Independent*, who, with a number of other Nationalists, was recently arrested, has been sentenced to 18 months' simple imprisonment, with a fine of 2,000 rupees, and an additional three months' in default, for publishing an article advocating recruiting for the Congress Volunteers; and also to a further six months' simple imprisonment and 1,000 rupees, and three months' in default, for being a member of the Congress Volunteers.

Printing, Bookbinding & Kindred TRADES OVERSEERS' ASSOCIATION.

There was a good muster of members at the monthly meeting of the Association held on the 6th inst., at the headquarters, St. Bride Institute, Bride-lane, E.C.4, the president (Mr. A. W. Hart) occupying the chair and the vice-president (Mr. H. Milton) supporting. Most of the evening's proceedings were occupied by an interesting lantern lecture given by Mr. G. W. Riley (H.M. Stationery Office), on a "Swiss Tour." This was the second lecture given by Mr. Riley on this subject, and like the first, was greatly appreciated by the members.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the correspondence submitted included a letter from Mr. E. A. Clifford, hon. solicitor of the Association, who wrote regretting his inability to address the members that night as promised owing to his having important provincial business in hand.

Mr. Boyce, of Henry Boyce and Co., printers' engineers, was next elected to honorary membership.

The two auditors elected for the ensuing year were Messrs. E. W. Tuff and W. T. Lingham.

Mr. Riley's lecture, illustrated mostly from photographs of his own taking, was listened to with very great attention. Starting from Zermatt he threw on to the screen some of the giant mountains of snow in the Bernese Oberland, and in vivid language described the wonderful scenes witnessed on the summits at sunrise and sunset. Interesting, too, were views of the Valley of the Grindelwald and of the Wetterhorn from the top. The conquest of the Matterhorn by Edward Whymper and his party of intrepid Alpine climbers, and the fate which befel Lord Alfred Douglas were graphically described and depicted. Mr. Riley, in concluding, spoke of the principal characteristics of the Swiss people, of whom he had the very highest opinion.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Riley, moved by the president and seconded by Mr. A. G. Aves, was heartily endorsed.

Mr. Geo. A. Eden, the general secretary, took the opportunity of tendering seasonal greetings to the members, it being the last occasion in which he would be able to do so in his present capacity.

Football.

The following matches were played on Saturday and resulted as shown:—

Printers' Football League.

Co-Operative Printing Society, 7; Oyez, 4. Amalgamated Press, 5; King's Printers, 0. Armoury, 5; Falcon, 3. St. Clements Press, 4; Britannia, 0.



ANNUAIRE DE L'IMPRIMERIE, par Arnold Muller—1921-1922. Paris: Arnold Muller, 79, rue Dareau. Prix, 6 francs.

We have received a copy of this well-known annual, now in its 32nd year, and can again commend it to all interested in the printing trade of France. The new edition has been revised up-to-date and will be found a most useful work of reference, containing as it does a mass of trade information, technical, legal and historic, with directories of trade firms in France, the French colonies, Luxembourg, Belgium and Switzerland. The volume runs to about 450 pages, 6½ in. by 4½ in., and is serviceably covered in cloth boards.

"WINTER'S PIE," the Christmas number of "Printers' Pie," makes an excellent show this year, the contributors including W. Pett Ridge, Wm. Le Queux, Keble Howard and Geo. R. Sims, while there are numerous black-and-white and colour illustrations, reproducing pictures by H. M. Bateman, Starr Wood, W. Heath Robinson, Will Owen and other well-known artists. This publication is issued by the "Pie Publications, Ltd." The whole of the £10,000 5 per cent. preference shares in the company are held by the trustees of the "Printers' Pie Trust," for the benefit of the Printers' Pension, Almshouse and Orphan Asylum Corporation; the Newspaper Press Fund; the Royal Literary Fund; the Booksellers' Provident Institution; the News-vendors' Benevolent and Provident Institution; and the Artists' General Benevolent Institution.

PRINTING BOOK COVERS.—The question of printing versus blocking of book covers, to which we devoted an article recently, has again led to a dispute at the house of Burrup, Mathieson and Sprague, Ltd., and on Tuesday morning a conference was held on the firm's premises attended by representatives of the platen minders and bookbinders' unions and of the Federation of Master Printers and the firm. We understand that Mr. W. G. Little, for the Federation, stressed the view that a dispute between two unions as to a demarcation of work should not be allowed to penalise the employer, and in the end it was agreed that the work of printing covers on platen machines should continue while the matter is considered by the London Printing and Kindred Trades Federation, whose conclusions will later be submitted to the Federation of Master Printers.

SIR A. PEARSON AND THE BLIND.—The tragic death of Sir Arthur Pearson last Friday, by slipping in his bath, removes one whose early journalistic successes in periodical publishing constitute one of the romances of the profession, and whose later extensive activities as newspaper proprietor are well known.

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Miscellaneous.

TECHNICAL WRITERS on Subjects of Interest to the Printing and Allied Trades are invited to communicate with Box 13870.

WASTE PAPER: ITS RECOVERY AND RE-MANUFACTURE. By Jas. Strachan. A Fund of Information; price 12s. 6d.—Stonhill and Gillis, Publishers, 58, Shoe-lane, London, E.C.4.

BUCHANAN'S EQUIVALENT WEIGHT CALCULATOR. A Time-saving Pocket Companion for Papermakers and Paper Users. Standard size (12-in. long), in boxwood; £2 2s.—Stonhill and Gillis, Publishers, 58, Shoe-lane, London, E.C.4.

The Chiswick Press Exhibition.

As we announced in advance some time ago, an exhibition is being held at the Public Library, Duke's-avenue, Chiswick High-road (a few minutes from Turnham Green Station), of printed books produced at the Chiswick Press, established on Chiswick Mall by Charles Whittingham in 1810, and continued there by his nephew, partner and namesake until 1852. The exhibition opened on Monday, and is of great interest. It includes books printed at the Chiswick Press of the elder Whittingham, lent by Mr. Charles T. Jacobi, formerly and for many years managing partner of the Chiswick Press. To these and to many other volumes have been added some of the beautiful books printed at the Chiswick Press in Took's-court. In addition to the books there are also many interesting portraits and autograph letters of the Whittinghams, views of the College House at Chiswick, where the printing was done, and various other Whittingham relics, such as indentures, memorial cards, a passport to France (1820), and so forth.

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The Printer and His Paper.

Mr. E. A. Dawe Continues to Spread Enlightenment.

Mr. Edward A. Dawe, of H.M. Stationery Office, is doing good service alike to the printer and the papermaker in the addresses which he delivers from time to time before gatherings of master printers on the subject of paper. On the 6th inst., at the Battersea Public Library, he attended a meeting of the South-West London Master Printers' Association, and spoke on "The Printer and His Paper."

He began by observing that there were many things the printer had to learn about paper. Those who only dealt with paper forgot that the printer was going to handle it, and those who were only concerned with print forgot that the paper had to be made. Mr. Dawe proceeded to emphasise how essential paper was. Whereas there were many ways of printing, there was, to all intents and purposes, only one material on which they could print, and that was paper.

From a century-old book, "Johnson's Typographia," the lecturer quoted a severe criticism of British paper. Why did the printer always complain about paper? The answer was simply because he did not know.

Mr. Dawe then took his hearers for a short "canter" over the papermaking processes, both hand-made and machine, explaining also the meaning of the various finishes.

Some of the troubles attributed to paper, he pointed out, were the fault of the printers themselves, and often arose from the conditions under which the paper was stored. Mr. Dawe mentioned the case of a large printing works in London where the stock room for the paper was open to the weather. When paper went to 9d. a lb. for rubbish everyone took great care of it, but when it was cheap the printers seemed to think it did not require any attention. Mr. Dawe wished to emphasise that when printers bought paper they should look after it properly. If it was carefully stored it would remain unchanged for a very long time, but if they were careless with it, even the best of papers would suffer.

Mr. Dawe showed how expensive it was to allow employees to get over their paper difficulties as best they could, whereas a great deal of valuable time might be saved if a specialist was consulted, and of these specialists there were many who could provide cures for paper ailments.

Mr. Dawe went on to deal with the various troubles which printers meet with in regard to register, cockling, electricity, and so on, and gave some useful hints on each phase of the subject. He particularly emphasised the necessity for maintaining an even temperature and moisture conditions in the printing room. With a high temperature the moisture was driven out of the paper, and the paper contracted, and when the moisture content of the room was raised the paper absorbed it

and expanded. From such variations register troubles occurred.

Lithographic printing introduced another factor, because they printed on a damp stone, and the early impressions took up a certain amount of moisture, with resulting expansion and further trouble. Paper did not contract and expand always at the same rate, because, with every expansion, it would contract less, so that they would get register troubles continuously unless the atmosphere of the printing works was controlled. Colour troubles in art paper were due to some extent to the papermaker, but it was difficult to get at the bottom of these, because they did not usually come to the notice of the printer until after the work was done.

In three-colour work there was sometimes trouble with the colour not coming down properly, but that was the printers' job, the ink requiring only a little modification in order to alter the colour value. Cockling was also another result of undue expansion. The paper being dried hard, only the outside edges had been able to take up moisture from the atmosphere. To check cockling, if the paper was new, the paper should be exposed to the air fairly well; but if the cockling was fixed in the paper, Mr. Dawe was afraid there was no cure. With regard to the electricity in paper, the speaker remarked that while it was a real trouble, in time it would disappear; it generally arose in new paper.

Mr. Dawe mentioned some of the curious effects which had arisen from unsuitable store room conditions. In one instance, yellow paper which developed black edges was found to have been stored near a drain which had given off gases, thus changing the colour round the edges. In another case, boards which refused to register the second colour properly, were found to have been placed near a radiator in the stock room, which the specialist, on being called in, pointed out was scarcely the way to treat boards. In another case the fault of the paper, which picked terribly, was due to a broken window exposing the paper to the damp atmosphere outside.

In the course of a discussion which followed Mr. Maynard referred to the practice of damping paper before printing, and mentioned that he had seen excellent results arising therefrom.

Mr. Spring said printers had been told that papermakers had overcome the necessity for damping. He did not think they found any printer-to-day who damped the paper and the results were satisfactory. He went on to refer to the different bulking qualities of paper, new paper not bulking to the same extent as that which had been in stock for some time. With regard to art paper, Mr. Spring said he should like to discover how they could get over the pin pricks which appeared under the blocks, and expressed the hope that some day they would overcome the defects arising from blue inks.

Answering a question by the president (Mr. J. D. Wise) as to whether it was possible to get paper with the same finish on both sides, Mr. Dawe replied that the nearest approach to that would be a water finish imitation art,

in which the impression of the wire was very nearly removed. As to a test for esparto papers, Mr. Dawe said a 5 per cent. solution of aniline sulphate, if it failed to produce a pink effect upon the paper, showed there was no esparto in it.

Mr. Simnett described how his firm had overcome their paper troubles by maintaining a steady temperature in the works all the week round. Since they had introduced central heating they never had to complain once of bad register or anything else if the paper had been in stock for some time. The only difficulty arose with a new parcel of paper direct from the mill which it was found necessary to put on the machine straight away. The speaker mentioned the advantage derived from opening out the paper and interleaving it with rough casement paper as soon as it was received. This overcame the troubles arising from stretching and so on, and in a couple of days the paper was fit to handle on the machine.

Mr. Tacey mentioned that a complaint with regard to black spots appearing on exercise books which had been supplied to a school was traced to the satchels used by the scholars, small particles of the American cloth settling on the paper. The speaker mentioned the importance of studying paper from the technical point of view.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Dawe for his address, and in his response he called the attention of master printers to the new paper trade customs which would come into operation on January 1st.

Norwegian Paper Market.

The paper market in Norway, says *Farmand*, shows slight symptoms of a greater activity, but prices rule unchanged. It is, however, hoped that better conditions are slowly drawing near, or at least that the turnover is going to increase. All depends on the state of the exchange value. The last fluctuations have been very harmful to the producers, who, at best, only get their costs of production covered; at worst, they must sell with losses.

Waste Paper Failure.

Re The British Waste Paper and Paper Stock Merchants.

A sitting of the London Bankruptcy Court was held on December 7th, before Mr. Registrar Mellor, for the public examination of Mrs. Mary Maud Austin, who carried on business under the above style at 42-4, Manchester-road, Notting-hill, W. The debtor filed her own petition on August 20th and has lodged accounts showing liabilities £992 against assets valued at £500, consisting of stock-in-trade, machinery fixtures and fittings. Replying to Mr. W. P. Bowyer, senior official receiver, the debtor stated that under the will of her late brother, she in July, 1920, received £2,746, of which £1,551 was used in the above business. In October, 1920, she became the tenant of 42 and 44, Manchester-road, and there commenced as a waste paper merchant, the business being managed by one of her sons, who had for twelve years previously been employed by a firm of waste paper merchants. Shortly after the business was opened a depression followed by a heavy fall in prices occurred in the trade, and in consequence the business was crippled, and sales could only be effected at a sacrifice. Owing to subsequent pressure by creditors and to an execution having been levied at the premises, witness filed her own petition. She attributed her insolvency to loss in trading through the aforesaid depression and heavy fall in prices, and to heavy expenses in connection with a motor lorry which was represented to be in good running order when bought, but proved to be defective, with the result that a considerable expense was incurred for cartage. The examination was concluded.

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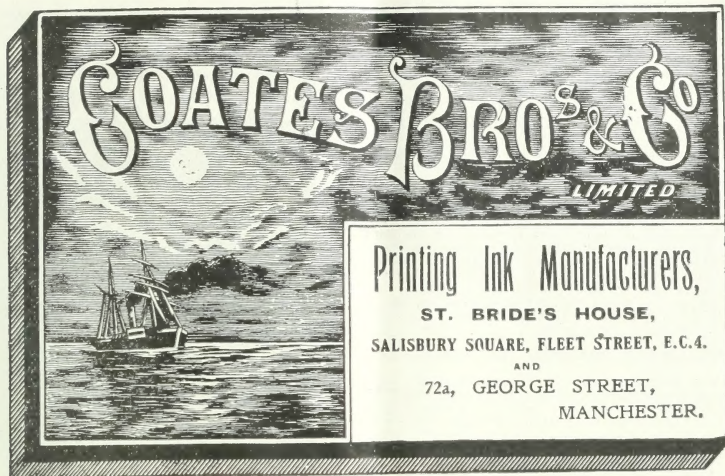
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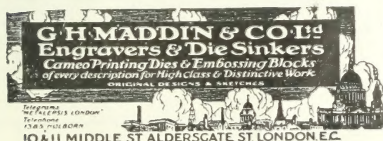
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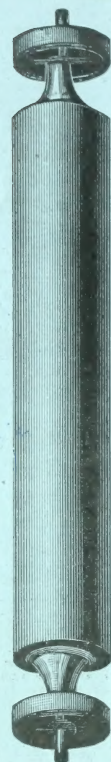
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